

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 PM-04 INR-07 L-03
ACDA-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 SS-15 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06
TRSE-00 SAJ-01 DODE-00 NSC-05 H-01 EB-08 OMB-01
COME-00 /090 W

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R 311553Z JAN 77
FM AMEMBASSY MADRID
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8816
INFO AMEMBASSY VALLETTA
AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
AMEMBASSY TUNIS
USMISSION NATO
USEC BRUSSELS 2489

C O N F I D E N T I A L MADRID 0769

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: PFOR,SP,MT
SUBJECT: SPANISH FOREIGN MINISTER'S VISIT TO MALTA

REF: VALLETTA 124

1. THE ACCOUNT PROVIDED EMBOFF BY THE FOREIGN MINISTRY'S
SUBDIRECTOR GENERAL FOR WESTERN EUROPEAN AFFAIRS (DEL PINO),
WHO ACCOMPANIED MINISTER OREJA TO MALTA, COINCIDED CLOSELY
WITH THAT CONTAINED REFTEL, INCLUDING THE POINTS ABOUT
COTONER (THE MARQUES DE MONDEJAR AND CHIEF OF THE ROYAL
HOUSEHOLD, MINTOFF'S DOMINATION OF THE OCCASION (AND
APPARENTLY OF THE MALTESE POLITICAL SCENE), AND THE GOS'
LIMITED RESPONSE. DEL PINO WAS STRUCK WITH MINTOFF'S
IMPASSIONED, RHETORICAL PITCH TO CONVERT MALTA FROM A
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"FORTRESS OF WAR TO A CENTER OF PEACE", AND WITH HIS PLIGHT
IN SEEKING ECONOMIC VIABILITY FOR HIS RESOURCE-DEVOID ISLAND.

2. ON THE LAST POINT, DEL PINO NOTED SPAIN'S OWN LIMITED
RESOURCES, INDICATING THAT THE GOS WOULD STUDY POSSIBILITIES
FOR STEPPING UP THE VERY MODEST PROGRAMS ALREADY UNDER WAY
(INCLUDING AN APPARENTLY SMALL NUMBER OF MALTESE STUDENTS

IN SPAIN). HE DESCRIBED MINTOFF'S PITCK FOR JOINT ECONOMIC VENTURES AS SOMEWHAT SCATTERED AND HECTIC, LEAPING FROM FISHING OPERATIONS TO BICYCLE PLANTS, AND INDICATED THAT THE SPAINSH PRIVATE SECTOR WOULD HAVE TO MAKE ANY DECISIONS ON JOINT VENTURES.

3. WITH REGARD TO THE KING OF SECURITY GUARANTEE MALTA WOULD GET, DEL PINO CALLED IMPOSSIBLE A "LIVE-OR-DIE-FOR-MALTA" PLEDGE BUT NOTED THE EXISTENCE OF OTHER POSSIBLE FORMULAS AND OBSERVED THAT INVOLVED IN THIS ISSUE WAS THE QUESTION OF WHO WOULD HAVE WHAT KIND OF ACCESS TO MALTA THEREAFTER. HE ALSO NOTED THAT THE LIBYAN FACTOR IN THE EQUATION COULD CHANGE SUBSTANTAILLY AT SUCH TIME AS QADHAFI DISAPPEARED BY ONE MEANS OR ANOTHER FROM THE SCENE.

4. FINALLY, DEL PINO, WHO HAD SAID THAT SPAIN COULD ONLY BE DEEPLY INTERESTED IN ANYTHING AFFECTING THE MEDITERREANEAN, ASKED THAT WE KEEP HIM INFORMED OF DEVELOPMENTS REGARDING THE MINTOFF PROPOSALS. STABLER

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Message Attributes

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Sent Date: 31-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am
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